



Article Review for ESIP Sustainability – ROI Framework Discussions

For April 21, 2016 web
conference call

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Purpose of Review:

- At the breakout session proposed for ESIP Summer 2016, we plan to “develop a framework to evaluate the ROI of a data repository (DR) that would help determine the value of data and stewardship services to stakeholders of varying perspectives.”
- To avoid re-hashing previous discussions, we are providing brief summaries of the background reading identified as important for these discussions
 - See list of references at:
http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Return_on_Investment_ROI_References

Article / Questions TBDiscussed

- ◉ ***Sustainable Business Models for Data Repositories***
- ◉ prepared by Ingrid Dillo, Simon Hodson, Anita de Waard with input from Carthage Smith
- ◉ #3 on list
- ◉ How is value (to stakeholders) defined / discussed?
- ◉ What are the definitions / explanations / categories of repository stakeholders?
- ◉ How were similarities among data repositories defined / discussed?
- ◉ How were differences among data repositories defined / discussed?
- ◉ What, if any, were the metrics used to measure the value(s) returned to repository stakeholders?
- ◉ What do the references say about the reason(s) for caring about this topic?

Context

- ◉ Follows on from findings of ***OECD Principles & Guidelines for Access to Research Data for Public Funding (Organization for Economic Co-operation & Development)***
- ◉ Motivated by struggles of OECD (national & international) level data repositories to keep pace with costs for providing data stewardship
- ◉ Follow-up studies requested by OECD Secretariat to prepare preliminary proposal on business models for data infrastructure

1. How is value (to stakeholders) defined / discussed?

- Emphasis is upon economics:
 - Value propositions (**not specifically discussed**)
 - Cost recovery
 - Stakeholders' willingness to pay
 - Overall business model
- All considered within the context of a range of "levels of stewardship" from "lightweight curation to the value of added services"

What are the definitions / explanations / categories of repository stakeholders?

- Focus upon national & international data repositories
- Not more specifically defined within this short explanatory article

How were similarities among data repositories defined / discussed?

- Approach is to explore two areas important for establishing models for sustainability:
 - Identify new & innovative income streams
 - Assess the viability of a sample of emerging sustainable business models from the POV(s) of “key stakeholders”

How were similarities among data repositories defined / discussed?, continued...

- Better understand options for sustainability models by:
 - Identifying new & innovative income streams that use & expand current findings, i.e.,
 - About 50% of DRs surveyed rely upon structural funding such as block grants
 - Other funding sources include short term project funding based on research, training, and/or infrastructure development
 - Other income streams including fees for data deposit, and services such as data curation & preservation services ***while balancing Open Access mandates by government, public & private entities***

How were similarities among data repositories defined / discussed?, continued...

- Better understand options for sustainability models by:
 - Assessing the viability of a sample of emerging sustainable business models from the POVs of “key stakeholders” by:
 - Surveying how DRs are currently funded
 - Identifying what additional / innovative income streams are available
 - Analyzing how income streams could fit together into a business model
 - Describing how those business models could fit into the budgeting structure & willingness / ability to pay by stakeholders of the DRs surveyed

How were differences among data repositories defined / discussed?

- TBD by study

What, if any, were the metrics used to measure the value(s) returned to repository stakeholders?

- TBD by study (?)

What do the references say about the reason(s) for caring about this topic?

- Member DRs are struggling to maintain sufficient budgets at appropriate levels of service
- Costs for service needs to be balanced by stakeholders' / (funders'?) mandates for Open Access to the data held in the DRs
- DRs are seeing increased recognition by stakeholders of the value of the data being stewarded by the DRs

Conclusions?

- Study will be conducted under the aegis of the OECD Global Science Forum (GSF) in conjunction with:
 - CODATA
 - Research Data Alliance
 - World Data System
- Final report should be ready by April 2017
- Promises to productively inform our efforts